

Message Text

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ACTION AGR-20

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 EB-11 SY-03 DODE-00 SS-20 NSC-07

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P 270820Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0851

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TOKYO 4015

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, US, JA, OVIP (BUTZ, EARL L.)

SUBJ: SECRETARY BUTZ VISIT - REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO LAND
AT OSAKA

REF: STATE 055373

SUMMARY: DESPITE EMBASSY EFFORTS GOJ HAS SHOWN GREAT RELUC-
TANCE TO PERMIT SECRETARY BUTZ AIRCRAFT TO LAND AT OSAKA.
HOWEVER, IF AIRCRAFT DOES NOT HAVE US MILITARY MARKINGS,
PERMISSION CAN PROBABLY BE OBTAINED. END SUMMARY.

1. EMBASSY HAS BEEN IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH FOREIGN OFFICE AND
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT REGARDING OUR REQUEST THAT SECRETARY
BUTZ' PLANE BE PERMITTED TO LAND AT OSAKA AIRPORT APRIL 13.
IN ADDITION TO FORMAL REQUEST AND DISCUSSIONS WITH THE
TWO MINISTRIES, CHARGE RAISED MATTER WITH FONOFF AMERICAN
AFFAIRS BUREAU DIRECTOR GENERAL OKAWARA MARCH 23, STRESS-
ING INCONVENIENCE AND INABILITY TO MEET WITH COTTON SPINNERS
WHICH WOULD RESULT FROM LANDING AT NAGOYA.

2. FONOFF AND MOT, WHILE WISHING TO BE RESPONSE TO SECRETARY
BUTZ' SCHEDULING NEEDS, HAVE TOLD EMBASSY THAT IT WOULD
BE VERY DIFFICULT TO ARRANGE LANDING AT OSAKA BECAUSE OF
LONG HISTORY OF STRONG PUBLIC PROTESTS OVER NOISE AND POLLU-
TION AT OSAKA AIRPORT. OSAKA CITIZENS GROUP RECENTLY GAINED
PARTIAL VICTORY IN COURT TEST OVER OPERATING HOURS OF OSAKA
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AIRPORT (TOKYO 2724), AND OVER PAST WEEKEND THREE JAPANESE
DOMESTIC CARRIERS AGREED VOLUNTARILY TO REDUCE NUMBER OF

FLIGHTS. IN PRESENT CLIMATE EVEN ONE ADDITIONAL FLIGHT LIKELY TRIGGER NEW PROTEST UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES GOJ VERY RELUCTANT TO FACE QUESTIONS WHICH WOULD PROBABLY ARISE IN DIET AND OUTSIDE OVER USE OF OSAKA AIRPORT BY SECRETARY BUTZ AIRCRAFT (PRESS WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY BECOME AWARE BECAUSE OF MONITORING BY LOCAL CITIZENS GROUP OF AIRPORT ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES).

3. DESPITE FOREGOING FONOFF HAS ADVISED EMBASSY INFORMALLY THAT PERMISSION CAN PROBABLY BE GRANTED FOR SECRETARY BTUZ AIRCRAFT TO USE OSAKA AIRPORT PROVIDED THAT AIRCRAFT CONTAINS NO RPT NO MILITARY MARKINGS. EMBASSY'S UNDERSTANDING IS THAT VC-135 PLANE IS MARKED QUOTE US AIR FORCE UNQTE. IF THAT IS THE CASE, AIRCRAFT WILL HAVE TO LAND AT NAGOYA.

ACTION REQUESTED: CONFIRMATION THAT AIRCRAFT TO BE USED BY SECRETARY BUTZ DOES CONTAIN MILITARY MARKINGS.
SHOESMITH

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